
American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection



Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
December 3, 1929–December 11, 1929, undated

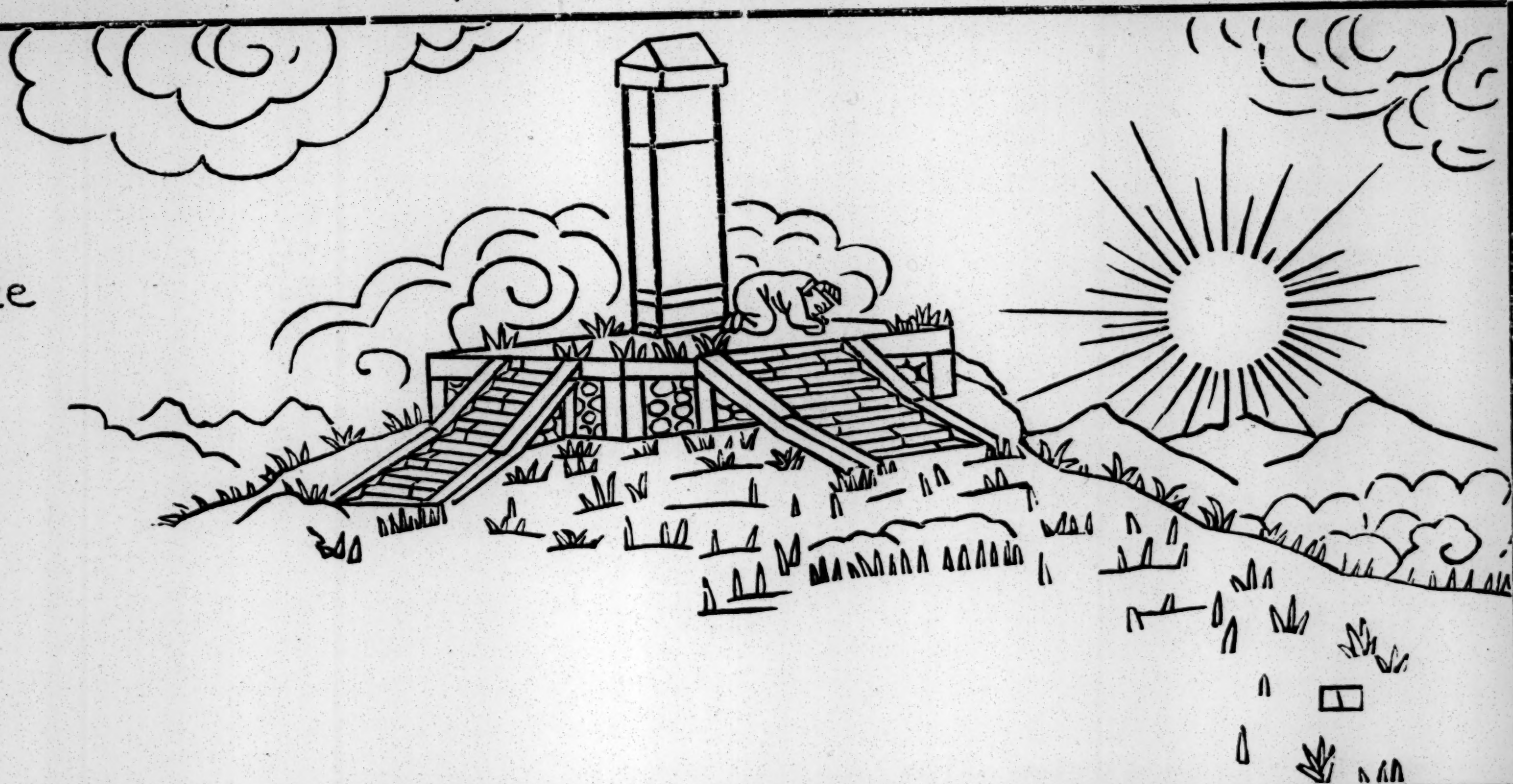
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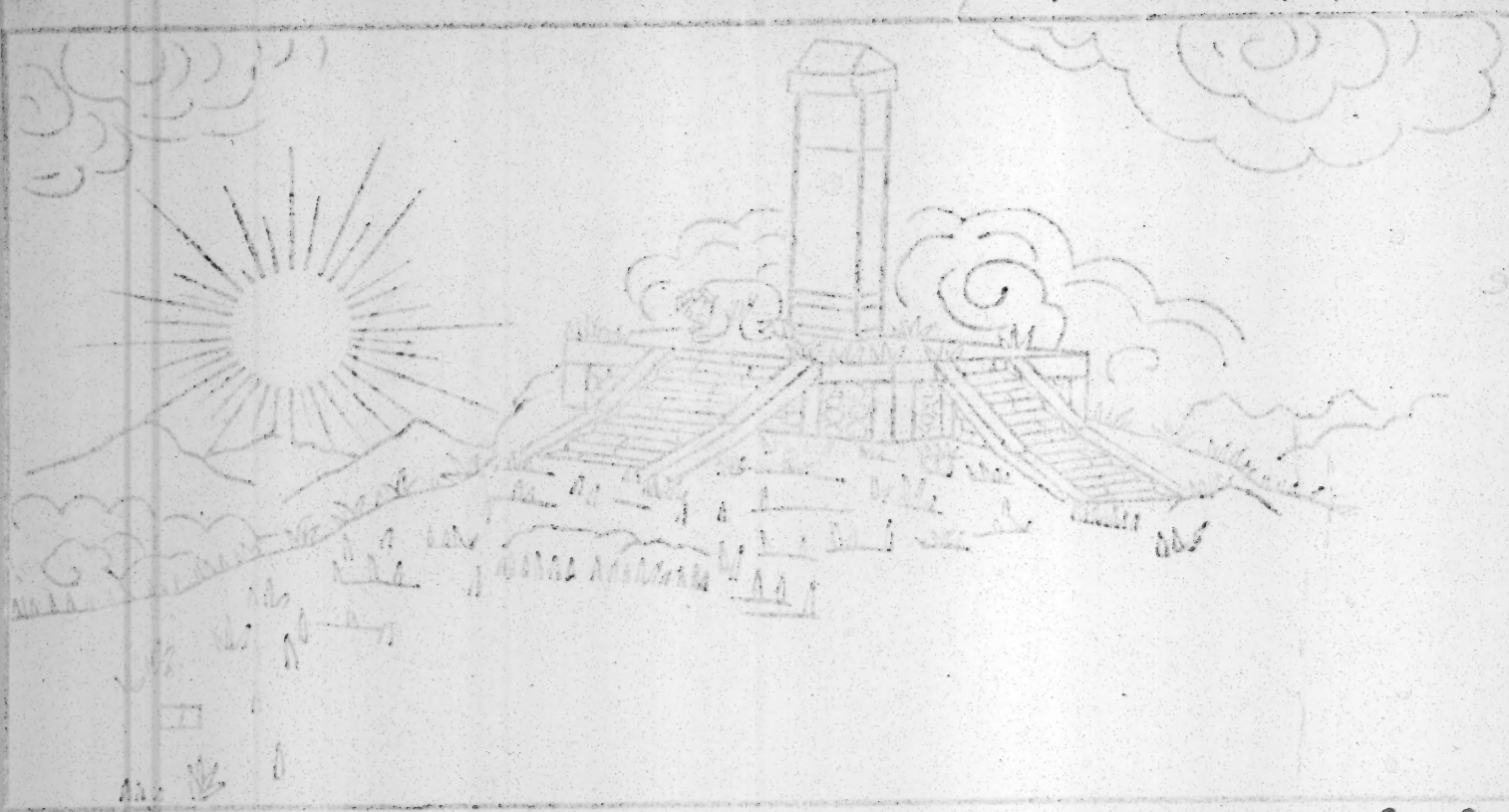
Altar of Sacrifice
on
Tai Shan



December 3, 1929
at home - 100'clock
Wed. at night.

Heart loved ones:

A late visit + a delayed one for sure - & here I am all packed again to stay in the country for two months and of all the busy wild rushing days + busy times - well, just so I've strength for it I ask nothing more. Got in last Saturday night late and leaving Thurs. a.m. surely has not left much spare time! Saturday coming home was fairly easy - cook came on the early train and put up the stove + had things pretty well fixed - nice hot water for a bath + supper ready - but oh! I had to peel my clothes at once not being accustomed to a fire I had to shed a few layers! It was late when I got to bed + Sam I visited + read a bit. Then Mon low it rained + blowed + turned cold + snowed so I just stayed in + while teacher did a lot of necessary writing I tended to a hundred details, it seemed, that had piled up - wrote a poem for Christmas card + made 40 (no time to get them printed) by pasting seals + cut-outs on cards - Tues Miss Fan + Hsu were here for a.m. + helped me shop - to get new garments + back for dinner + till 4:30 + after callers were in so last night it was



Alfred J. Smith
no
Jan 2 1891

one before I got in, Besides getting off have tried to
get my report done for the station printed re-
port of 3000 words, Today, + callers stopping
+ the usual line of hectic days - well it is
almost passed + the work will soon be
done, I guess the Master wants to develop
patience in my heart - that thru the hectic
trials I can glorify Him + keep that sweet
sense of His presence, The tailor made a
mistake + did ~~a~~ short garment + pants of my
nice material - rather than a long garment +
that did try me since I had to buy another
+ the short one now I can't use - did not
need for Mrs. Ihus set me the cloth + Mrs.
Jan made the nicest warm short garment
So... it goes. I guess were in the world to
develop what is lacking in us - so I
am content - I guarantee a few days like
this to knock off or "put on" a few corners!
It's surely great we stay long in the country
This agony would ^{be} unbearable if doses were
too frequent, ^{ha!} Now end of that - I
want to answer your good letters - This
time the mail service + frequent trips in + out
by various ones made it nice. I got one

1) about every week. But I fear you weren't
so fortunate! This time was unusually full -
because Miss Hudson's illness was prolonged &
she wasn't able to come at all. However we
managed & had a glorious time. Last two
weeks especially fine. I taught John & I just
loved it!! It surely was fun.

Your letter - the greatest news was of your
move - you're already there. seems almost im-
possible. All the Christmas packages & this
fall of Sai An letters will all go to Roseburg,
Mrs. Chandler sent them on. The woodcut
is the altar where emperors used to worship
God (Heaven) & the man bowing is the
priest that we saw bowing to the sun!
Mr. Walter drew the original. I hope you'll
say "merry Christmas" on the reports that you
mail out as I haven't sent a thing home
from here - impossible - & I love ^{each} moment
expected the long report which hasn't come
yet!! - so - you tell them all for
me on the note. I'm mailing a few more
I had a few extra & you may need them -
if they come before I return (2 months) Mrs.
C. will mail them on to you. Well, I
surely was grieved at Mr. Snyder. So thick
he would do such a thing is almost beyond
belief! Must pray much for him that he be
brought nearer the master - I fear that is "fallow-
ing a far off. I always have a warm spot
in my heart for him - how he used to give me
wintergreen drops & carry me home from church
as a youngster - I guess he's the first minister
I can remember. & of course the part in
Daddy Si's conversion endear him to us -
but how it hurts that he'd do such a thing!

31 Our family is surely a moving or non-moving one. I guess Leo is the latter. It would take a pretty good place to get him away from the "child of his heart" that plant + I don't blame him. I was surprised at the first letter saying he was to move + amused at the second. Well, sit tight on a good thing - I'm sure he's a help in Enterprise - I wrote Mrs. Higgins after the meeting of Presbytery a bum letter - but it was not easy to achieve it out there!

Your questions - Leave China in June 1931. I am supposed to spend the year in study + speaking (if assigned) 9 months in school. I think I've already told you this + 3 mo. vacation - I don't know where I'll study. The station must ^{+ may suggest} approve + also the Board of the plans.

You asked whether 75 per mo. would be enough for you to live on in China. That is what I get - if the exchange is high as it is now it makes \$185 sometimes - of course out of mine comes the insurance the pension, Union Savings, my student money + all my expenses, living as I do in the country. I can save on that side - on coal + food + all - but what I save on that goes to students. Yes, mummy precious - see you'd have no rent to pay - + no expenses much - my food bill does run very high. Mrs. Jewsbury has had someone nearly all the time her husband is gone + is so happy to have. Says she won't if she can help it, stay alone. So that would be all right - Expense there wouldn't be so much. Yes honey you could live on it very comfortably. You had a big celebration at dedication of court-house! Yes honey, you sent me Bertie's check

51 and it sold for \$49 - & already has partly gone to the blind boy. He has been ill & in hospital with beri-beri but they wrote that he's better. I just pray for this time to make him grow! Glad Mrs. Norman saw Mrs. Johnson. Wonder if you did - You can move easily from Oregon City. I & her was a guest at her home when I went up to Mary's wedding - husband is the chairman of the Seafaring Mission. Yes, I remember Miss Evans & her little wagon! I hope she's well. Nice to know Warren's home & B. - They have had a glorious trip - but their nearly broke. He Etta probably won't be sending for so many things from here! I like to get for her etc. That surely was much of the boys to decorate for Gule's birthday!!

Mumma, honey, this letter is getting so stupid & "rambly" it is because I'm just so weary. It will be enough to let you know I'm well - We got to four places - each 2 weeks & will be out over Christmas - whether we'll have mail or not I do not know. Maybe the cook can come in once for packages etc but this place is the furthest away of any in the field so it may be I'll just wait. I hope you'll all have a wonderful Christmas dearest ones! & lots of love to you all! Sleepily -
nite - nite - Love

December 11, 1929
Cebu in country -

No.
Dearest Mummies:

Well, I'm going to try desperately to get a letter off to you - may have a chance to get it mailed tomorrow if the cook goes in to the city. We've sold all the Bibles & hymn books we brought and we've only been out a week today & we're still five weeks ahead - with no books so we must go in once. I'll bring out any packages there for Christmas - do I'm not so sure I want him to - The Chinese girls I'm with won't have a lot of packages & we have so much more at best that I feel sometimes it's much like parading "things" - so maybe just letters. It's just a couple of weeks till Christmas & I can't realize it! How fast the time has flown these weeks. -

I must tell you of our trip out here. We got off in the usual flurry - getting up at 4 a.m. to get all packed up & ^{I had to} see that cook scrubbed the kitchen floor & blacked the little stove etc. - with our "little" SHIRADOME luggage - 21 pieces - for 5 of us not

2) so worse - sent me - took ~~two~~ hr.
on the train, Mr. Davies was on the
train I hadn't seen him as he just got
home from Lurian the night before
I left + left again on the same train,
He came thru to hunt me to ask
his customary questions when I've
just come in from the country -
"Are you well?" "Have a good trip" -
"Are you sure you're warm enough +
can you have proper food this
time you're out!" He always is most
solicitous about my health - of
course I appreciate it muchly! Well,
we got off + went to a little in - to
drink a cup of tea, eat a few
rice hot meat + vegetable dumplings
while the haggling with the carters
proceeded. First they wanted 5 mex
each to go 60 li, + we said no too
much! Then they all left - but we
were not alarmed - they'd come
back + they did - more haggling +
waiting! + we drank more tea - I
was tired from my strenuous few
days in Singtoo so pulled out my
fur coat + proceeded to stretch
out on the bed to rest - got hot
water filled by the most obliging
host who was in league with the
carters + would get at least 2 out

3] of their money for this part - We decided a couple of times to stay overnite there + wait so they'd come down - I made good use of the 2 hrs we waited, resting - Well at last \$17.00 for 3 carts was best we could manage - ^{4 or 5 in the pulled} It had rained + snowed heavily + the melted snow + rain just made the roads regular "sloughs" - not at all despond tho, so we soon understood the high price. We bumped up + down quite as many li as we went forward - at the slow ~~pace~~ of about 2 miles per hr. - However I was perfectly comfy - our bed roll spread out in the floor of the cart made a comfy seat. Miss Jan + I in one cart - just filled it, in width, so we bumped the minimum. About 2:30 the porter who had so bravely assured us we'd make it by eve, to our destination said quite as nonchalantly "yes, well have to spend nite on the way". So it was bumpy - etc. I relaxed + slept + rested. A few ham sandwiches + some things which ^{came at intervals from} Miss Jan's ^{bag} handbag added to the hot meat dumplings we got at inn. Kept our appetites in check! We reached "South Village" - thru which I'd passed once before + knew of

A Christian living there - It was 4 P.M.
I because they said the road was
not safe to travel late etc. we'd
pass the night. All agreed willingly.
The teacher found this Christian man
who has a little medicine shop.
He said he'd borrow an empty
room for us. As Mr. Li went into
the inn + there were beds - but
it was a big open room at one
end kitchen + at the other end
beds - ~~had~~ one opening toward the
street + one out to inner court
where porters put their ~~coats~~ + mules -
after a nice cup of tea in his shop +
meeting a very sincere inquirer Mr.
Chang from whom he borrowed the
room we were shown the room.
A nice quiet room, large + so
clean - with shining red varnished
table + a clean matting on the flat
board bed. We were "in clover". Cook
brought hot water from the inn +
bowls of nice ~~low~~ tea 2 1/2 ¢ gold
per bowl + tea - we had cookies
+ fruit - so we were well provided
for. They ~~us~~ we did - after our
hosts especially thoughtful assurances
that no one could get in to disturb
us - However we didn't need his

5) Reassuring remarks to make us sleep!
Early in a.m. before the inn food was
ready the carters were eager to be off
so ^{no.} again we crapped feet + legs
in the fur coat + were off over
frozen roads without breakfast.
The remaining sandwiches + surprises
from Miss Jan's bag served. At
10 o'clock we reached the place
we are now. We heard at once
from Jim that this place was upset +
some had moved out. This is a big
village with quite a large church
group. We were taken first to church
where Elder Li met us + the the
cooks + teachers' luggage were left
+ we came on here to an empty - two
rooms owned by a widow who
lives in adjoining rooms with her
two children, + the cooks in an out
side building (he moved up here). Miss
Hua has been ill + so hasn't been
here so far but will come soon.
We've had such good times Miss Jan
is really one dear! We'd just gotten
ourselves surrounded by luggage
not unpacked when Elder Li came to
arrange for "meetings". We began
after dinner - a nap that P.M. a
big crowd. There ^{SHIRAME} is a school with
20 some girls + about that many

6, boys - then a crowd of women +
non-Christians. From the first we
felt a fine spirit of unity + love.
The Elder manages so well + there
seems to be a very sweet spirit + none
of envious + jealousies of some places.
The second day after service (which
I lead every other day - I tell you
it keeps me hustling to keep up -)
the Elder divided them all up - one
class of those who can read - one of
those who can't about 17 - + the
men - asked Miss Faint to take the
beginners + Mr. Chittle men + me those
who could read, - so we began.
Well, it has just been wonderful
such a spirit of hunger - just so
thirsty! + the way they just just
drink in the lessons + study. The
same spirit in both classes. It
is particularly evident the most
I've seen yet. Satan has had his
hand at work with obstacles but
they're just ^{an} unquenchable "thirst".
Such a joy it is + how I praise the
master for his help. I said every
other day lead church service, then
have my class - 10 - 12 singing
+ they surely sing well - + Bible +
then another period P. M. at the

7] same (2 hrs or 2 1/2 hrs) Studying
John + I'm so glad for the bit of prepa-
ration on it by 2 weeks at La Huen
San. I just love it + the way the Most
helps is wonderful.

Now, I want to tell you this - just as
an experience + you must not worry
about it. Wed. A.M. just at daylight
we were awakened by shots + sharp
firing - soon we knew it was soldiers
who had come to get the nest of
bandits who live here some (10). I had
not dressed yet. The cook came out
of his room saying - "Like New Year's
A.M." because new year they fire fireworks.
Before long in came a soldier guarding
the gate - Mrs. Chan opened the gates + in
came at intervals of several minutes five
or six soldiers - always met coats first
+ used her arms, "I cook for the
foreigner", "Yes, we're here to preach Jesus"
etc. One insisted that foreigners protected
bandits - that was a new one to me.
they just looked into the rooms +
left - one asked what all was in the
cans + bottles on the kitchen table -
I wasn't the least frightened - + to only
one was it necessary to speak, + that
to assure him I didn't come to protect
bandits. Imagine me "protecting" bandits!
I was eventually as we were eating

8] breakfast the Elder & another man came to say that Mr. Eli my teacher who was sleeping in the school house by himself had been taken to the big courtyard where they were rounding up any who were at all suspicious or about ^{from} every family one. They asked me to go to tell the commander he was my teacher. So - in a new role - I went with them. The commander ^{of the 400 or 500 soldiers} was short & neat & very courteous. Asked my ^{worthy} country, what I was doing & how long I expected to stay & then my errand ^{+ gave me his card.} - Along with Mr. Eli they asked for the members of the church & the class. I was a bit surprised at this. I didn't know that was ^{to be} part of the program. Suddenly found myself leading out "a band of captives". The teacher had awakened by the sound & soldiers came in - He had no one to prove he was what he said so they said he must go with them - & proceeded to bind his hands. He said, "Well, don't bind them tight for I will ~~be~~ ^{it will} hurt" - at last did bind loosely - He said it just like a little youngster - He was there a couple hours or more - The Elder had come early to see if we were all right but hadn't heard of Mr. Eli's plight. It was quite amusing after all. The officer was so polite & my trip was so effective getting 20 or more out.

9) Well, another family didn't fore-saw well
an old lady quite pitifully came to
ask me to get her son out - after that
a. m. t. y. took all the rest to the city -
near to jail + to question them etc - He
had a gambling shop - I couldn't do
that - I didn't know him + to try to get
him would not be for me to meddle
in - + that might be no end of trouble
resulting. Poor old lady, said you get
him out + I'll do anything you say again
you anything! However the day of foreign
just mixing in political things is
over + for me to speak for him might
even make it harder! That group they
got had one real bandit in it - but the
leader who has terrorized everyone
is still here. That day after ^{the} search
he went to a home + killed a man in
cold blood - we were just finishing our
belated church service + heard four shots
- for a few hours it did look bad +
all were pretty scared we could tell -
P. M. teacher came + said one person
suggested we'd better go - I didn't
feel so at all. - Well, we thought after
that day we'd not have any class -
but "a year of little faith", here they all
came more than before. They said
"Oh, ~~we~~ ^{we} hear you're leaving", "No, I said
we're no such idea + don't want to
go. You should have seen the re-
sult + all. They just seemed to
pro."

(10) settle down to study peacefully + forget the other. Next day all peaceful + more folks + even more interest! Then rained + abt the mud + the road - no walk just mud. + still they came. In ordinary times in such mud you'd never see anyone out especially "women + girls". They said too for any other thing would not stir but we'd come to class. Well, how could we run off from a spirit like that + how could he preach "Jesus will care for you" etc + "Trust" + then run! Well, I told the cooks + teacher - I'd stay + they could go as they felt they should but I'd stay. "Nothing could happen without God's consent + if it happens it has value in it for ^{our} use" - so we're still here + glad. Nothing since has happened. The man who was killed was formerly "in" with bandits + they thought he'd turned + "squealed". Talk about peace in turmoil + a calm in the storm - that is just what our hearts have had. Today more rain + mud + even better interest + they protest we must stay till after Christmas!! Nite-nite - another Sat. eve. + we're still here + gladder all the time we stayed. Just now we're in the throes of getting a Christmas program ready along

11) with our classes. Talk about weather
hindrance - we've surely had. mud up
half way up our shoes for three days -
but still we still had the same
numbers out for class - wet feet so
the older women took off shoes & all
squeezed with feet under them on our
Kang - Then after the mud we had a
few quite biting cold days - & this
a.m. we woke up - ground all lovely &
white - & it has snowed steadily all
day - but tonight again there are stars
& it is clear & cold. I am grateful I
am to the dear Father above for my
warm clothes - my silk & cotton
padded long trousers, my fur-lined
garment - & the heavy stockings - the
ones you got for me at Beers & Raebuck
I think, & I must not forget my nice
big felt "icebooners" - "my old man's joy"
as these felt shoes are called in the
south. They are just like slippers -
just now as I got on the Kang to write
I asked Miss Fan + 1 who had cold
feet to take them - can't let them get
cold you see - Miss Fan put them
on with, "How can they be so warm
as this is bliss." Maybe you remember
last year at Peking my telling you
about getting them - Soles about 1 1/2
in thick - ^{soft} felt padded with horse-
hair inside & several layers of wooly
flannel inside - ^{SHIRAZ} they are just the
best word in warmth but surely

12/ not in "beauty" I went paddling
off to church in them this A.M.; + no
one laughed - ~~at~~ my face but all
are wearing extra large shoes, straw
woven closely - with extra fine straw in-
side.

While the cook has been in to city + took
a cord to mail - I couldn't get this
off so I'll try now to finish + with
the first opportunity I'll mail it on.
The cook had quite a wild trip in the
rain into city + brought Miss Hsu
back with her. Fortunately because
Miss Tan's class of beginners + mostly
old ladies were too many for her
to manage well - The cook
came back with her which was
most fortunate - as she ^{would have} had a
hard trip alone. Their baggage was
little - so they came in mule litter -
I haven't ridden in one yet - a couple
of poles on which is built a frame-
work making a seat. Then, matting
covering shelter from weather. This is
swung on backs of two mules. They
made it in one day - got here just
at five o'clock. It was a cold
windy day but Miss Hsu had a
fur garment + was well padded
in many layers. We're now all
three on the one kang + making it.

13] beautifully. They are darling girls
+ surely I am grateful to the master
for the privilege of being with them. They
both called me "worthy aunt" + treat
me like one surely! One cold Q.M. here
they gave me a darling knitted hat
black wool with white pom-poms at
the side - the nicest thing in China
hats. It is darling - so nice + warm +
it was so sweet of them to knit it for
me - my Christmas gift! They gave it early
as it was cold! They are so nice!

The cooks said there were a lot of
packages in at home in the kitchen Mr
C. didn't tell him what they were + he
didn't ask - but he did describe what
seems to be the brush you spoke
of. I think the others likely are some stored
there. I wouldn't be getting that many!

Thanks so much about one! I had
written for you not to get it so I
hadn't expected it at all - Thanks you,
sister dear, for the stockings. I haven't
put on my old undersweater yet so the
way I'm dressed on top if I have it it
it doesn't matter - Sorry you were troubled
to get it. I'll see if I don't need it it
maybe later will - It is so hard to get
out here. Well, sleep with coats
on + I'm weary - Girls in bed make
me feel doubly sleepy so I hope to
write more tomorrow - nite-nite -
All my love to you precious!!

14| Sun. P. m. a. just back from the
home of postmaster of village. He
invited us over for dinner. He just
said the mail runner hadn't come
yet today tho he is due so I
fortuned back to add a bit to
this letter + send it on its belated
way. They had the nicest hot
Kang + we first squatted on it +
ate peanuts - Then a tray with
four bowls of food - chicken +
cabbage cooked together, pei thau
+ meat + egg + bean curd + long
noodles - The lovely steamed
bread was so hot + millet
porridge to drink. Um! it was
good. Well cooked + tasty! We've
had a lot of meals out this
week - much like this or maybe
added to it meat dumplings!
The first bell has rung so I must
hurry + take the girl's Bibles to
them as they stayed there. Cook
brought out 2 letters Nov. 8 + 15
telling about your moving etc.
I can't wait now to answer them
so will save that for next letter -

Much, much love to you
dearest loved ones +
Merry Christmas - 3 days away.
Will probably have my teacher + a
Mr. Li (evangelist) we have here for
dinner - Love - Irene

Pai Ling Shantung
90 li from Tsingtao

Dear Anna:

I'll begin the account of my country trip
no 2, I wrote you just before leaving
Tsingtao. Tuesday morning early, the
"coronan" my Chinese teacher, cook, baggage,
+ I - ~~formation~~ ~~baggage~~ ~~for~~ who can travel
in China without this ~~expensive~~ ~~mean~~ ~~uncomfortable~~ ~~and~~ ~~very~~ ~~much~~ ~~more~~ ~~than~~ ~~before~~ -
having added a suitcase just for Bibles,
tracts and hymn books; it was also
heavier - supplies for two months - - -
we finally all got in the bus + baggage
on top and again we were off! It is with
such a happy heart I leave for I have
these trips + this one especially promises
to be different! At Tsingtao I felt like
a truly honored guest as Miss Strunk
of the Lutheran Mission who has charge of
the girls school there sent her own
chair to the depot to take me the mile
or so to her home. After hiring a cart, ^{and seeing} that
the baggage was stowed away + a place for
the teacher and cook to ride - I went
into the city while they went on the
twenty-five li to Pai Ling. -

Another new experience was that chair -
a rattan chair with long poles fasten-
ed to each side - contrived so far

2 - now carried it on their shoulders -
It was a novel sensation to say the least
but I must confess - right at the time
I felt horribly conspicuous & almost
ridiculous - then my sense of humor
was along & I couldn't keep from smiling
- sometimes laughing - which at the
abominable poor road or slope - was
inevitable! I arrived at last with
a sense of relief after passing in
the moon-gate way to Miss Strunk's
home back of the school. The moon-
gate way is a round hole in the
wall - no chimney & no lintel -
after a nice dinner & visit with her
and two guests - Miss Strunk prepared
my equipage for my 25 li ride in
it. A fur foot-muff in bottom &
a fur rug made the journey in the
sharp cold wind toasty & warm. I
walked several li - I don't enjoy
the fact that fakhs are working so
hard to carry me - when I can walk!
I arrived at Pui Ling to find the cook
& teacher waiting for me to direct
where to unpack!

Miss Chow ^{at} the wonderful Bibbeman
with whom I'm privileged to work
told me where one class had
already begun - but more of
that later - Then Mr. Li at
whom I'll tell more - escorted us

3) us to our quarters, Elder Heich who
is quite friendly - with land + houses
has the house in the courtyard empty
so I was given a new Chinese broom
house - one is a kitchen, one ^{in which} I can receive
callers - study with my teacher + later
will have a class in it, + a bedroom.
There is a nice clean kang for bed, I'm
ever so cozy + comfy. No fires but I do
not mind - The room opens to the south
on a wide courtyard & it is surprising
how warm it is with sunshine all
day. The courtyard is new so as yet
no flowers but has trees & it's really
very nice. In an adjoining courtyard but
with the same wall - the teacher + coats
+ the hired workers live - then across
a narrow street are the Elder and his
family's rooms. Miss Chow + Wang who
formerly shared rooms with me have
their own homes here - so I'm a bit
alone - but I see advantages in it
too. The evenings seem long as we're not
having night meetings but I curl up
on the kang with my fur rug + read
or study or write. It may be more
longer later but I think not - This
way I have to talk more - if folks
come in + there are three of us, naturally
I don't do so much talking - there's
that advantage. I'm planning to use

4) these long evenings for Bible Study and Chinese as the days will be full. The necessary concentration on Chinese has left me too little time for Bible study - so I will not lack for occupation -

The day schedule will be filled out regularly tomorrow - but so far - I've been to the classes at the South Village and at North Village where I live for two days.

I must begin with the first of the story - Mr. Li who was born here as a youth committed some crime & had to flee - eventually he got to America and was converted and later graduated from Moody Bible Institute. He has been home about three months and truly the Master has used him to work a wonderful revival. All the families in South Village have confessed Christ, destroyed family idols & may have already unbound their feet and want to study! I do wish you could see them, their conversions, the real sincerity and fine spirit. It is just a joy to be here. There are over twenty five regular students & this doesn't count smaller girls or children who come to the nat in

5) such great numbers because they are
so in earnest they leave the children,
as much as possible, at home. All
ladies and young wives - all come!
One old lady over 60 lamented the
fact that ^{she} could recognize all the
characters in the hymn she had no
trouble to be able to sing. I leave ^{her} tho
she was doing ~~very~~ ^{雷殘橋斷} well - considering!

In one verse of a song one learned Jesus
could save friends - those in the home
so that after noon she brought her
sister to study.

I found in the former trips - that eye work
was - so very much needed - & so
so this time I brought a supply!! - the
clinic is again - with eyes of all
descriptions before me - for beyond my
skill - tho I'm glad to report my
faithful "basic aid" is doing wonders!
my fame as doctor has gone out - imagine
my surprise to have a dear old lady
confront me with - "Why do I thought
another with a tumor to die to be cured -
my heart ~~fully~~ ^{truly} aches to be able to
see cataracts etc but even so the
spiritual blindness is much more
serious than the physical - & maybe
if I were a doctor I'd have no time
for that side so I go on -
but its hard to have them come with

b) Layer high of a curl + then want
be able to give them the desired curves.

Today Sunday has been such a sweet
day - & interesting if for seeing ^{some} the wedding
cunony. We went to South village &
came to church with the class. It was
so inspiring to see these women all
neatly dressed in clean garments going
to church - to realize what it means
to each soul! After church in the L-
shaped church we went to one we
saw a wide room headed by four
men, having our trumpets, or wind drum,
and two white symbols going to the home
of his relatives to bow to them before
entering the gaily decorated chair in
which he rode to go for his bride. He
had red cloth draped over shoulder
& tied at the waist and a fancy red
head dress over his ears. After the last
call he entered his home to eat some
little cake - then came out to enter
the ornate chair to go for the bride.
<sup>two small patches - same color as his robe - black, worn in
red cloth wrapped around the chair, and the robe was very long & flowing.</sup>
Later in afternoon we saw him return
the bride following him. Each carried a
pair of chopsticks - to be ready to eat on re-
turn to his home I guess. The bride was
dressed in a beautifully embroidered red
silk dress - her face was covered with a veil

I don't know so I can't tell much more about
her. With her husband four men of her
family - when they reached his home, they
stopped & waited for four of his family to
come to invite them to enter. When the
four came they all bowed deeply three
times & then they came on. The chairs
were put down in front of his home &
two girls - dressed in ^{雪襖}bridal garments &
chaddresses came out to invite the
bride to alight! They came & bowed for
several minutes - then groom got out &
later women entered. Her chair & assisted
her - then she could properly alight.
She then followed the groom inside.
The inside ceremony I didn't see but
they worship before a tablet on which is
spread offerings of food & bow to the
ancestral tablets. It is all very
new & strange & interesting!
It is indeed a privilege to be here. I
forgot to tell that Elder Hsieh asked
us, Miss Chow & Wang & me - with
the old Rev. Pan a guest, my teacher, &
2 other teachers to dinner one night -
It was a state occasion - & I was so
happy to be included!

One evening two women heart sick &
sad by five deaths in family came in &

3) we sang + last prayer + read ^{the} Bible.
I felt that evening alone would make
the whole two months stay ever worth
while.

Lonite, all the "family" - Elder Heilbrunn
+ daughter, the old Rev. Hans - treasurer,
the hired men, cook + I had a sing
new + old hymns + it was so sweet!!
As the joy to fellowship with these
dear people. It never ceases to thrill
me + to prove our real oneness in Him
to find those of another race worshipping
Him - but even as I say it I realize that
at the time one is not at all conscious
of a difference at all! It truly is
wonderful the Union in Christ!
Must get up early - patients will
be here early + classes open -
Good night.

This is Wednesday. How time flies. Friday
there will be a rail man come so I
can send this letter.

How quickly the time flies + how full
it is. My heart is so full tonight
of conflicting emotions - How precious
these days are! Monday we began with
a regular schedule + it is this after
a worship period, we divide into a church

雪殘橋斷

Monday with a group of small boys 9-13-
years arrived to see the store + look
again. We sang a song + two + last
with before I had thought they came
in larger numbers to sing. Then which
came in and after a song after tea with
them on the Kiddle + I played! Such
fun! I had sung that little chorus
based on the conversation of Paul + the
Phillipian sailor - when it occurred to
me it would be fun to play it! I
wish ^{could} have seen it! They just enjoyed it
not only once - but we must repeat it
until all the Kiddle had been Paul
and sailor etc! It was such fun + the
way they entered into it. Well tonight
at 5:30 while Mr. Li was here + I

12
not thought of supper - again they
arrive with a new member! just as
eager & excited. I asked them what
they wanted to do & they said 'play
last night's story!'. They did it over &
over - while, Kate & I added a few
more details about their arrest Paul
while preaching etc. - they are quite
as can be! I'm sure till their dying
day they won't forget that story -
They're gone & I've promised a new
story for tomorrow night! Oh! it
is such a joy to be here & have these
pious hearts to come to play & to
sing & linger for a word of thanksgiving
to the Giver of this joy.

Today in South village there was a funeral.
- a middle class & medium priced one.
They had put up a temporary big white
square tent - in it at one end was the
coffin with a big undecorated banner in
front - then in front of that a small
table with incense and offering of food
Bread in center of canopy under big
decorated lanterns where there big
tables of food arranged in bowls &
in saucers - forty kinds of food -
arranged as an offering to dead -
It was so artistically arranged!
The mourners wearing coarse white

garments that approach sides of the tent
as friends or relatives entered the tent
a trumpet at door blew a blast & the
friend went up to the little table in
front of the safford, bowed to the ground
& now bowed (forehead to ground) three
times - some offered incense & other
paper. I didn't see more but after
a few hours they went by a long pro-
cession of the relatives to bury him. The
night before we met them returning
from a nearby temple where they had
gone to accompany his spirit & then
they burned a paper horse which was
to take the spirit to future abode.
The procession passed us wailing
& weeping. I knew converts were ⁱⁿ ~~near~~
his relatives. They didn't ^{have} ~~give~~ money to
the family. They went in processions ~~at~~
at the tent but did not worship the
spirit. The deceased son really wanted
to believe in Christ - & he was afraid they
would so at death he said in detail
just how they must do - all these
old ceremonies. They say they will wait
till 3 weeks & five weeks and one year
after death - ceremonies are over then
they will believe.

There is a blind boy in my class but
at so clever - he remembers a long
section just hearing it a few times.

12] we are going to try to ^{with rainwater} a book in
the phonetic script, so he can read with
his fingers, Mr. Li told me tonight that
he formerly was incorrigible in the way of
more at people etc. but he surely
seems "really changed".

You ought to come to China for false
tutti, but Mrs. Smith says that
work perfectly - no pain - for 14 Mpx.
or about seven American dollars!

I am a couple ^{of min} studying at night
with my teacher - no more kept busy
about night & day. But while we are
happy for this sign of grace how we
long for an even greater ^{meaning} in
a radius of a few miles or about forty
villages untouched! as that it is power
might touch hearts in a wonderful way.
Please pray for this, too!

Tonite there were fourteen boys came to
play - six ^{had} never before heard of Jesus so
we sang & played the Phillipian gale
for them & you should have heard the
over playing Paul preach to them! Then
after I had supper - [they came at 5:30] - I
told them the story of the Good Samaritan
& how I wish you should have seen them
how they listened & understood & then
played it. The six new ones declared
they'd come back! As the sick eyes I've
seen today - says I've discerned. It

He Master is so good
I've discerned
most of the

Mount mummy:

The other pages may eventually form a report of these two months so if you want to keep them separate & wait for lost - or better still use them as interest facts to pray for - we will still have a month after you receive this. 雪殘梅斷 You require this send on to Mrs. Higgins. I'll try to write & keep it up to date.

Sunday the salporteur came out from Saingtao & brought your letters - that from Braunville. It was so good to get them. Bless you dear for your faithfulness - if mail is a possibility I'm just sure of a letter, or two possibly from you.

Glad to hear about Uncle Robt & your visit there & all! So your Enterprise visit is over & you've had a nice visit & tired wandering around it! You'll soon be off again to Woodburn to rent or sell - I so bad you missed Clyde, but glad he got to see Uncle Robt. Your next letter will doubtless tell about your trip to Daddy's grave - I think I'd like one of the pictures of his flowers now.

This has been a full day - up at six - breakfast at 7:30 - 8:00 cook's class, 8:30-9:30 teacher - with interruptions

9:30 - 10 play guitar for worship period
10 - 11 my quiddies + more came today
11 - 12 help some christian girls prepare
christmas song - + fix eyes - dinner
2 - 4 class - + 5 songs at Southville
5:30 - 7 my "spontaneous class" I call it
for it just has sprung up with no
planning or announcement at all -
we get these letters off for our
mail every few days.

Sometimes I must write - send a
S.O.S. for eye medicine etc. -
I'm so grateful for health + strength
+ the joy abundant that He gives!
and the privilege of being here -
there is no more enjoyable work nor
satisfying I feel sure!

Much love dearest Mums +
all. This is a darling little round faced
boy big eyes etc - makes me think of
the twins - his sick today I'm sorry.

Willy write - I must stop - tho I
suppose I could just rattle on
indefinitely.

Much love -

And please
correct any mistakes
I've not read it!

Irene -

9.



out on the porch + I lay
on, it while I directed
the peach ice cream
making. Pretty
soon teacher came
up to watch (came

up on an errand but stayed to watch -
so as fast as it froze full we ate it
down - till it was almost like the
widow's oil; Well, it was such fun
I had such enjoyment out of it! It's
like a wee toy! Reminded me of Buel's
& my job on Sat. nites at home! I sure, honey,
you'll feel that day's joy made it worth
while. I did.

Same week a Mrs. Wang came in from
country with Miss Chaw + Wang - & she was
so amusing! First trip out of her little
village & she surely enjoyed it. She said
the trees + people on the road ran by
but she sat still + before she knew it
was down to Singtao! She also had
a taste of ice cream.

Tomorrow I move over to Mrs. Chandler's
three rooms. I've gradually packed +
sorted so am about ready. There are
advantages to having little furniture
you don't have to move it!! I've brought
my dining table this week. It's really lovely -
a good copy of this one of Mrs. Luskbury's

10) only heavier looking! He was afraid it wouldn't be strong! It will do nicely. I have a chest of five drawers is done. Before I know it I'll have a whole household's equipment! That will be a nice way to celebrate my birthday eh? Wonder how he will celebrate? Cook just said he'd have to fix ^{noodles} long min tiao for me tomorrow that that was very important! They must to long to indicate + wish long life! Don't know how he knew the teacher knew, tho maybe he told him. Last week he gave me (teacher) 4 interesting pictures Spring, Summer, Fall + Winter - He said they also meant "long life" - the four a cycle + then representing the longer cycles making long periods of time! I surely will miss his help next year. So far I haven't a teacher. He will go to Bible Seminary of Longshien + I know he'll make a wonderful minister so am glad he wants to go!

Oh! I'm so glad you've had this time with Woreen + He Etta + George. Lovely!! Of course you did right to go. Surely he will have no way of not playing fair - Can't sell them anywhere else + Oh Murrell, to think you've long wanted to go to Cal. + we've been so selfish in our own ways + didn't even know! Mothers are just like that - never say. Bless you now upon the chance. I'm glad + just know you're having a fine time. Give em each a big smack for me. Tell He Etta I did cash the check. - Her Christmas gifts I find very hard to find her but I'll try to substitute for what I can't get. Guess that's most of news + I'll write from the mt. I hope next time - Thank Mrs. Moe for her prayers. Love - Love - Love